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Reply to Office action of December 9, 2005

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Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-27. (canceled)

28. (currently amended) A method of automatically recording Internet activity performed by a user on behalf of a client of the user, comprising:

initiating, by the user, a client session by opening an Internet browser window;

denying user access to the Internet;

automatically prompting the user for a user identifier and at least one of a client identifier and a client matter identifier;

~~denying access to the Internet until the user identifier and the at least one of the client identifier and the client matter identifier is provided by the user;~~

providing, by the user, at least one of the user identifier and the at least one of the client identifier and the client matter identifier;

allowing user access to the Internet on provision of the at least one of the user identifier and the at least one of the client identifier and the client matter identifier by the user;

performing Internet activity by the user on behalf of the client;

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automatically generating a start time value based at least in part on a start time of the Internet activity;

automatically generating a completion time value based at least in part on a completion time of the Internet activity;

automatically generating an activity record corresponding to the Internet activity performed by the user between the start time and the completion time;

automatically storing a session record including the start time value, the completion time value, and a listing of pages and files accessed by the user while performing the Internet activity;

automatically generating at least one of a bill and a report based at least in part on said session record; and

forwarding, to the client, the at least one of the bill and the report;

wherein the Internet activity includes accessing at least one of publicly-available pages and files via the Internet.

29. (previously presented) The method of claim 28, wherein the Internet activity further includes transmitting a request for data via the Internet, and at least one of data entry of a network address, data entry of a URL, data entry of at least one search term, data entry of at least one data instance, selection of a hyperlink, a data transfer, and an input device event.

30. (canceled)

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31. (canceled)

32. (previously presented) The method of claim 28, wherein generating at least one of the bill and the report includes sorting the session record by at least one of the client identifier, the client matter identifier, and the user identifier.

33. (canceled)

34. (original) The method of claim 29, wherein the activity record includes information identifying at least one of network addresses accessed by the user, times of URL entries made by the user, a list of search terms entered by the user, captures of data instances accessed by the user, selections of hyperlinks by the user, data transfers made by the user, and input device events performed by the user.

35. (previously presented) The method of claim 28, wherein the Internet activity includes data entry of a URL, selection of a hyperlink, and an input device event.

36. (original) The method of claim 35, wherein the activity record includes information identifying at least one of times of URL entries made by the user, selections of hyperlinks by the user, and input device events performed by the user.

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37. (original) The method of claim 28, wherein the client session is initiated on a computer that is connected directly to the Internet.

38. (original) The method of claim 28, wherein the one respective Internet activity is not restricted to activity with a particular content provider.

39. (previously presented) A process of automatically recording Internet activity performed by a user on behalf of a client of the user, comprising:

- providing a computer with communication connection to the Internet;
- beginning a client session by launching a Web browser program on the computer;
- automatically prompting the user for user identification information and at least one of client identification information and client matter identification information;
- allowing the browser to fetch information via the Internet only on receipt of the user identification information and the at least one of client identification information and client matter identification information;
- entering at least one request for information via the Internet through use of the Web browser program;
- ending the client session;
- automatically generating a session record of the client session, wherein the session record includes an indication of the time duration of the client session, and a listing of all requests for information entered during the client session;

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automatically generating at least a portion of a bill based at least in part on the session record and on a billing rate for the user; and
sending the bill to the client.

40. (previously presented) The process of claim 39, wherein the request for information includes entry of an URL in the browser request field.

41. (previously presented) The process of claim 39, wherein the request for information includes clicking on a hyperlink.

42. (previously presented) The process of claim 39, wherein the request for information includes downloading a file.

43. (previously presented) The process of claim 39, wherein ending the client session includes closing the browser application.

44. (previously presented) The process of claim 39, further comprising automatically generating a session report based at least in part on the session record.

45. (previously presented) The process of claim 44, wherein the session report includes the listing of all requests for information entered during the client session.

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46. (previously presented) The process of claim 45, wherein the session report includes an access time indication for each listed request for information.

47. (previously presented) The process of claim 45, wherein the session report includes a time duration indication for each listed request for information.

48. (previously presented) The process of claim 44, further comprising storing the session report.

49. (previously presented) The process of claim 45, further comprising retrieving the stored session report for use in a second client session.

50. (previously presented) A magnetic storage medium, comprising instructions that are readable by a processor and that cause the processor to execute the process of claim 39.